

The Makers of the Kingdom

SEALS OF GEORGE OP ANTIOCH



271

their various talents to the founding and organising of a state, whose subjects were as varied in race and sympathies as they themselves. George and his fellow-admirals by sea, Robert and Guarin by land, Thomas Brown and all his co-workers in the Curia and the Exchequer, served the single will of the King and obeyed the direction which he gave to the kingdom; tinder that unquestioned authority they made a state and a government system for which they could find no models among the Western kingdoms. If the dynasty they served was extinguished in forty years, yet the impulse of their work still ran in a broad and noble stream. Great commanders by sea maintained the tradition bequeathed from Christodulus and George; Frederick II., most brilliant of all mediaeval Emperors, rebuilt upon the work of his grandfather Roger and the officers of the Curia a power and a government even greater and more splendid than theirs.